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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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TAGS: US, PIN , PARM, XG

SUBJECT: AMERICAN PRESS COVERAGE

1. HIGHLIGHTS. FRIDAY NYTIMES FRONTPAGE US PLEDGES NOT TO
DEVELOP MINI ATOM ARMS; WEEK-END PAPERS FEATURED KISSINGER
IN MIDEAST; SUNDAY BALTSUN FRONTPAGE MOSCOW, BREZHNEV
CAUTIONED ON ARMS GOALS; TUESDAY PAPERS FRONTPAGE KISSINGER
LEAVES SYRIA WITHOUT PACT, ALSO GISCARD NAMES GAULLIST
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CHIRAC AS PREMIER. NYTIMES FRONTPAGES MIDDLETON. US

GROUND FORCES GET LATEST WEAPONS--WILL INFANTRYMAN ARMED WITH ANTITANK MISSILES RENDER TANK OBSOLETE? WASH-POST FRONTPAGES NIXON TIES PEACE TO US ARMS, PRAISING STENNIS HEBERT AND CONGRESS FOR REFUSING TO SLASH DEFENSE BUDGET. WASHPOST ALSO FRONTPAGES MOSCOW KAISER, SOVIET SAID TO SHIFT OIL POLICY AGAINST MAJOR FOREIGN PARTICIPATION; BUT POST INSIDE REPORTS US OFFICIALS DOUBT SUCH CHANGE. COMMENT SCATTERED.

1A. TUESDAY NYTIMES INSIDE REPORTS US RUSSIA HOPE TO SET NEW CURBS ON ATOM TESTS NEXT MONTH. THURSDAY LATIMES HAD WARSAW NATO FAIL TO REACH ACCORD; MONDAY LATIMES WASHINGTON REPORTED EXPERT WOHLSTETTER WROTE IN JOURNAL, FOREIGN POLICY, US HAS CONSISTENTLY UNDER-ESTIMATED RUSSIAN DEPLOYMENT OF NEW STRATEGIC WEAPONS; TUESDAY LATIMES HAS

LONDON REUTERS, BRITISH AND NATO FORCES SHADOW SOVIET FLEET EXERCISES 400 MILES NORTH OF BRITISH ISLES.

2. TROOPS. THURSDAY LATIMES HAD VIENNA AP REPORTING NATO AND WARSAW POWERS FAILED AGAIN WEDNESDAY TO SETTLE THEIR CONTROVERSY OVER WHETHER TO START FORCE REDUCTIONS IN CENTRAL EUROPE WITH US AND SOVIET TROOPS ONLY OR WITH ALL SOLDIERS INVOLVED. BUT A NATO SPOKESMAN, ACCORDING AP, SAID THIS DIDN'T MEAN TALKS WERE DEADLOCKED, SAYING ANOTHER SESSION IS SCHEDULED FOR NEXT WEEK. AP SAYS NATO WANTS REDUCTION TO START WITH SUPERPOWERS, TO BE FOLLOWED BY REDUCTIONS IN TROOPS OF TEN OTHER SPECIFIED COUNTRIES BUT WARSAW WANTS CUTS OF ALL TROOPS FROM THE BEGINNING.

3. MININUKES. FRIDAY NYTIMES FINNEY WASHINGTON REPORTED US GAVE ASSURANCES IT WOULDN'T DEVELOP A NEW GENERATION OF MINIATURIZED NUCLEAR WEAPONS THAT COULD BE USED INTERCHANGEABLY WITH CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS ON A BATTLEFIELD, AMBASSADOR JOSEPH MARTIN TOLD GENEVA DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE, ACCORDING TO FINNEY'S INTERVIEW WITH IKLE WHO STRESSED US HAS NO INTENTION TO MOVE IN A DIRECTION THAT COULD BLUR THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN NUCLEAR AND CONVENTIONAL ARMS. WASHPOST ALSO HAD LONG STORY BY GETTLER STRESSING UNCLASSIFIED

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CHIEF US REPRESENTATIVE SOUGHT TO ASSURE GENEVA TALKS US ISN'T DEVELOPING VERY SMALL ATOMIC WEAPONS THAT MIGHT BLUR THE DISTINCTION, AND ALSO QUOTING IKLE.

3A. TUESDAY BALTSUN EDITORIAL, SWEARING OFF THE MININUKES, HOLDS THAT THE US HAS PROVIDED THE ONE BRIGHT NOTE OF CURRENT GENEVA DISARMAMENT TALKS, ADDING THE ACDA PLEDGE APPEARS DESIGNED AS MUCH TO HAMSTRING PLANNERS IN US

MILITARY AND AEC AS ANYTHING ELSE. SUN SAYS MORE EXPLICIT DEFINITION OF THE BORDERLINE WOULD ADD TO THE MENTAL SECURITY, FOR SURELY THE OBJECT MUST NOW BE TO KEEP OTHER COUNTRIES OUT OF THE SAME LINE OF DEVELOPMENT.

4. MISSILES. SUNDAY WASHPOST AND WASHSTAR REPORTED, FROM LOCAL AP, THAT THREE SENATORS HAVE ASKED KISSINGER FOR HIS OPINION ON DEFENSE DEPARTMENT PROPOSALS TO INCREASE THE ACCURACY AND YIELD OF US ICBMS, AP NOTING FULL SENATE IS EXPECTED TO CONSIDER PROCUREMENT BILL IN JUNE. SENATORS MONDALE, MCINTYRE, MATHIAS JOINED IN LETTER EXPRESSING CONCERN THAT THE PROGRAMS WOULD INCREASE THE DANGER OF NUCLEAR WAR AND COST US INCREASED BILLIONS.

5. TEST CURB. TUESDAY NYTIMES GELB SAYS WASHINGTON MOSCOW ARE PUSHING HARD TOWARD NEW LIMITATION ON NUCLEAR

TESTS, HOPING TO HAVE IT READY FOR SIGNING AT MOSCOW SUMMIT NEXT MONTH BUT ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS CONCEDE THAT THE AGREEMENT IS DESIGNED MORE TO SHOW THAT EAST-WEST ACCOMMODATION IS STILL WORKING THAN TO HAVE ANY REAL IMPACT ON ARMS CONTROL. GELB SAYS REASON WHY KISSINGER REJECTED SOVIET BID FOR A BAN ON ALL NUCLEAR TESTING WAS HIS CONCERN THAT US WOULD APPEAR TO BE JOINING MOSCOW IN PRESSURING CHINA TO END HER TESTING, ADDING THAT OPPOSITION TO FURTHER LIMITS ON TESTING IS COMING FROM AEC, PENTAGON, AND ALLIES OF NUCLEAR RESEARCH LABS, WHEREAS NEW LIMITS ARE FAVORED BY STATE, ACDA AND NSC STAFFS.

6. RUSSIA. SUNDAY BALTSUN PARKS MOSCOW REPORTED THAT DESPITE ACKNOWLEDGED DIFFICULTIES, A NEW ARMS-CONTROL AGREEMENT IS APPARENTLY STILL THE KREMLIN'S NUMBER ONE UNCLASSIFIED

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GOAL FOR THE NIXON-BREZHNEV MEETING NEXT MONTH, BUT THERE ARE INDICATIONS BREZHNEV FACES RESISTANCE ON THIS POINT FROM THOSE IN MOSCOW WHO THINK ANY SIGNIFICANT CONCESSION BY MOSCOW WOULD UNDERMINE SOVIET UNION'S NATIONAL SECURITY, PARKS CITING AN AUTHORITATIVE ASSESSMENT OF SUMMIT PROSPECTS IN RESPECTED JOURNAL USA WHICH WARNS AGAINST UNDUE EAGERNESS IN NEGOTIATING A NEW AGREEMENT LIMITING STRATEGIC ARMS. PARKS ALSO SAYS SOVIET MILITARY LEADERS, SUPPORTED BY HARD-LINE CONSERVATIVES IN THE PARTY, ARE CONCERNED THAT NEW SALT AGREEMENT MIGHT FURTHER DETENTE BUT MIGHT INCLUDE PROVISIONS WEAKENING MOSCOW'S POSITION PARKS SAYS WESTERN DIPLOMATS EXPRESSED SKEPTICISM ABOUT AN INTERNAL DISPUTE, SUGGESTING MOSCOW MIGHT BE EXAGGERATING IT AS A NEGOTIATING PLOY. PARKS SAYS OTHER MAJOR TOPICS ON SUMMIT AGENDA, ACCORDING USA JOURNAL, INCLUDE:

PACESTTING STEPS US AND SOVIET UNION COULD TAKE TOGETHER TO ENCOURAGE GLOBAL EFFORTS TO LIMIT AND STOP THE ARMS DRIVE; REDUCTION OF ARMED FORCES IN CENTRAL EUROPE, WITH THE ASSESSMENT SAYING THERE ARE GOOD PROSPECTS FOR REMOVING ALL THAT STILL HINDERS AN INITIAL AGREEMENT; AMERICAN-SOVIET EFFORTS FOR MIDEAST PEACE; BROADER AGREEMENTS ON TRADE AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS; CONCLUSION OF CSCE WITH NIXON REPRESENTING US AT FINAL SESSION.

6A. TUESDAY WASHPOST MORGAN WASHINGTON REPORTS US GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY OFFICIALS EXPRESSED STRONG DOUBTS YESTERDAY THAT SOVIET UNION HAS ABANDONED ITS PLAN TO ENLIST U.S. TECHNOLOGY AND CAPITAL IN DEVELOPMENT OF SIBERIAN NATURAL GAS. LAST WEEK CHAIRMAN CASEY OF EX-

IM BANK MET WITH SOVIET DEPUTY TRADE MINISTER ALKHIMOV AND CHIEF JAPANESE NEGOTIATOR ANZAI AT WHICH TIME NO INTIMATION IN A POLICY SHIFT WAS GIVEN. YESTERDAY SOVIET OIL MINISTER VALENTIN SHASHIN TOLD U.S. REPORTERS IN MOSCOW HE DID NOT THINK THERE WOULD BE FOREIGN PARTICIPATION IN OIL AND GAS DEVELOPMENT. INDUSTRY AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS HERE SPECULATE THAT THIS MAY EITHER BE A "NEGOTIATING TACTIC" TO SPEED U.S. AND JAPAN TOWARDS CONCLUSION OF THEIR PLANS, OR A REFLECTION OF SOVIET BUREAUCRATIC IN-FIGHTING OVER PRIORITIES IN THE 1975-1980 FIVE-YEAR PLAN. SOVIET OFFICIALS HERE INDICATED SURPRISE AT UNCLASSIFIED

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YESTERDAY'S PRONOUNCEMENT AND THINK IT MAY BE A MISUNDERSTANDING.

7. OTHER COMMENT. SAN DIEGO UNION MAY 13 EDITORIAL IS ENTITLED, SUMMIT TRIP ESSENTIAL, PAPER SAYING FOR AMERICAN PRESIDENT TO CANCEL HIS TRIP WOULD SHOW IRRESOLUTION AND WEAKEN US POSITION ON SEVERAL FRONTS, INCLUDING SALT AND MIDEAST, AND COULD DEPRIVE WESTERN EUROPE NOW IN DISARRAY OF THE STRONG AMERICAN VOICE WHICH CAN HAVE A UNIFYING EFFECT WITHIN ATLANTIC ALLIANCE.

7A. FRIDAY NYNEWS EDITORIAL HAILS UNSCATHED PASSAGE OF MILITARY AUTHORIZATION BILL THROUGH HOUSE AS MARKING A MOST SATISFYING DAY FOR AMERICANS WHO REGARD HIGH MILITARY PREPAREDNESS AS ESSENTIAL.

7B. TUESDAY LATIMES, HOWEVER, HAS EDITORIAL--TRIMMING THE FAT FROM DEFENSE--SAYING THAT CITIZEN GROUP RECOMMENDATION FOR SAVING 11 BILLIONS ON DEFENSE BILL MAY HAVE BEEN OVERSTATING CASE BUT SOME PROPOSALS MERIT SERIOUS CONSIDERATION. EDITORIAL SAYS HOUSE WAS RIGHT IN REJECTING 100,000-MAN CUT, BUT CONGRESS SHOULD STUDY

BUILDING OF SMALLER SUBS INSTEAD OF NEW TRIDENTS AND PAPER
ESPECIALLY FAVORS RECOMMENDATION OF 15 PERCENT CUT AMONG
BOTH CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES AND MILITARY SUPPORT PERSONNEL
WHICH WOULD SAVE UP TO FOUR BILLIONS A YEAR. RUSH

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